

REMARKS

By the foregoing Amendment, Claims 1, 3, and 5-7 have now been cancelled, so that Claims 1-7 now are cancelled, and Claims 8 and 14 have been currently amended. Favorable consideration of the application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1, 3, 5-8, 11-14 and 17-19 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) on the grounds of anticipation by WO97/43210. At page 5, lines 12-24, WO97/43210 discloses an oxygen generating composition with from 0.1 to about 5% of an alkaline compound that may be a peroxide of strontium. Claim 8 now recites "greater than 5 to about 20% by weight strontium peroxide," and Claim 14 recites "greater than 5 to about 6% by weight strontium peroxide." Claim 8 also recites "from zero to about 15% by weight of a cobalt oxide as a catalyst," and Claim 14 recites "from zero to about 12% by weight of cobalt oxide as a catalyst." Claims 8 and 14 also recite that the claimed ranges of strontium peroxide are in a top layer.

The specification at page 7, lines 1-13, and at page 11, lines 4-9, that the claimed ranges for strontium peroxide in combination with cobalt oxide are appropriate in the top layers of a chemical oxygen generating core. It is respectfully submitted that WO97/43210 does not teach, disclose or suggest the claimed ranges for strontium peroxide in combination with cobalt oxide in the top layers of a chemical oxygen generating core. It is therefore respectfully submitted that the claims as amended are novel and inventive over WO97/43210.

In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully submitted that the application should now be in condition for allowance, and an early favorable action in this regard is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

FULWIDER PATTON LEE & UTECHT, LLP

By: 

James W. Paul
Reg. No. 29,967

JWP/rvw

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Howard Hughes Center
6060 Center Drive, Tenth Floor
Los Angeles, CA 90045
Telephone: (310) 824-5555
Facsimile: (310) 824-9696
Customer No. 24201